

SHB 1280 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Human Services & Corrections

ADOPTED 04/15/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 74.13 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) Within existing resources, the department shall establish an
6 oversight committee to monitor, guide, and report on kinship care
7 recommendations and implementation activities. The committee shall:

8 (a) Draft a kinship care definition that is restricted to persons
9 related by blood, marriage, or adoption, including marriages that have
10 been dissolved, or for a minor defined as an "Indian child" under the
11 federal Indian child welfare act (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1901 et seq.), the
12 definition of "extended family member" under the federal Indian child
13 welfare act, and a set of principles. If the committee concludes that
14 one or more programs or services would be more efficiently and
15 effectively delivered under a different definition of kin, it shall
16 state what definition is needed, and identify the program or service in
17 the report. It shall also provide evidence of how the program or
18 service will be more efficiently and effectively delivered under the
19 different definition. The department shall not adopt rules or policies
20 changing the definition of kin without authorizing legislation;

21 (b) Monitor and provide consultation on the implementation of
22 recommendations contained in the 2002 kinship care report, including
23 but not limited to the recommendations relating to legal and respite
24 care services and resources;

25 (c) Partner with nonprofit organizations and private sector
26 businesses to guide a public education awareness campaign; and

27 (d) Assist with developing future recommendations on kinship care
28 issues.

29 (2) The department shall consult with the oversight committee on

1 its efforts to better collaborate and coordinate services to benefit
2 kinship care families.

3 (3) The oversight committee must consist of a minimum of thirty
4 percent kinship caregivers, who shall represent a diversity of kinship
5 families. Statewide representation with geographic, ethnic, and gender
6 diversity is required. Other members shall include representatives of
7 the department, representatives of relevant state agencies,
8 representatives of the private nonprofit and business sectors, child
9 advocates, representatives of Washington state Indian tribes as defined
10 under the federal Indian welfare act (25 U.S.C. Sec. 1901 et seq.), and
11 representatives of the legal or judicial field. Birth parents, foster
12 parents, and others who have an interest in these issues may also be
13 included.

14 (4) To the extent funding is available, the department may
15 reimburse nondepartmental members of the oversight committee for costs
16 incurred in participating in the meetings of the oversight committee.

17 (5) The kinship care oversight committee shall update the
18 legislature and governor annually on committee activities, with the
19 first update due by January 1, 2006.

20 (6) This section expires January 1, 2010."

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21 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "committee;" strike the
22 remainder of the title and insert "adding a new section to chapter
23 74.13 RCW; and providing an expiration date."

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